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Secretary of Labor Ray Marshall was at the Egyptian Embassy saying he did not clear his assistants with the White House staff before picking them. He picked them, then sent their names over.

Counsel to the President Bob Lipshutz was telling how reassuring it was to listen to the news. First, he heard he was going to resign. Then he heard he was going to be a federal judge. "Last night I heard on the news that I was going to stay." His chuckling mood confirmed either (1) Nervousness over uncertainty, (2) Pleasure over a judgeship, or (3) Relief over remaining at the Casa Blanca.

CIA Director Stan Turner, getting a harmless tonic and ice at the bar, was as surprised as Marshall, Lipshutz, Budget Director Jim McIntyre and Undersecretary of State David Newsom that Ambassador Ghorbal was in Cairo. The invitations had been issued in the Ghorbals' names but he had to go to Cairo so they remained there for a holiday.

None of the big wheels needed to come in Ghorbal's absence. Under such circumstances an assistant secretary and the chief of protocol — Kit Dobelle was there — would have sufficed. But then, with Carter's Egyptian interests, it was better to be on the safe side.

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